

Michigan Friends Center

7748 Clarks Lake Road

P.O. Box 218 Chelsea, Michigan 48118

A Quaker-Oriented Facility for Meetings, Retreats and Conferences

Phone/FAX (734) 475-1892

Fall 2017: Current Programs

Meeting for Worship in the manner of Friends

10:00 a.m. Second Sunday of every month

Spirituality – Spiritual Development

Under the auspices of Ann Arbor Friends meeting, a Quaker worship group has been meeting in one form or another since the early days of the Friends Lake Community and Michigan Friends Center. John Deikis currently carries on the tradition as coordinator. To join this group, email director@mfccenter.org

Film Series: Climate Change: Issues and Responses

7:00-9:00 Thursday evenings: September 7, September 14, September 21, September 28, October 5, October 12

Donations welcome.

Sustainability – Film

This six-week film series highlights some of the major contributing factors to global warming and examines actual ways that people may address them as challenges to be overcome. Interspersed with the weekly film selections, we will lead short presentations and/or group discussions about our responses here in the Chelsea area and beyond. Series hosted at Michigan Friends Center and co-sponsored by Transition Town Chelsea. Six Thursdays from September 7 through October 12.

Autumnal Equinox Celebration — a multi-generational celebration of balance and letting go

7:00-9:00 p.m. Friday, September 22, potluck 6-7 pm; bonfire 7-9 — at the Friends Lake beach; join us for any part (the food will be put away at 7)

Donations welcome.

Community – Ceremonies, Celebrations & Festivals

We will celebrate the balance of day and night with a potluck dinner followed by a bonfire around which to share thoughts, poems, stories, songs, knowledge. All ages welcome.

Bring food to share and your own place settings. We will provide water and herbal iced tea. Bring something to share for after dinner as well-- a verse, story or song you like, seasonal lore, a readiness to partake in what others have brought. What does this season mean to you?

Bring flashlights, and long sleeves, and dress for the weather.

A Day of Solitude and Meditation Practice led by Carol Blotter

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Saturday, September 23

Suggested donation \$30 or as able. Pre-registration requested; contact Carol Blotter at 475-0942.

Spirituality – Meditation

Each retreat is an opportunity to enjoy the quiet of the country while practicing sitting and walking meditation. This day is appropriate for anyone interested in meditation: beginners will have break-out instruction; experienced meditators can be in silence all day; those in-between can practice and have their questions answered. These retreats are fundraisers for the benefit of Michigan Friends Center. Contact Carol at 734-475-0942 or cb.meditate@gmail.com to register.

Fall Nature Walk

2:00-3:30 Saturday, October 14

Donations welcome.

Sustainability – Wilderness Awareness

Come join us for a wonderful fall walk around the woodlands of Friends Lake Community. There is never a dull moment while exploring nature. There will most likely be goldenrods and asters still flowering, trees and plants in seed and fruit, and a lot of green still making the transition to fall. Bring your curiosity, binoculars and a hand lens if you can. The walk will be mild to moderately challenging, depending on individual needs of participants.

A Different Way: Living Simply in a Complex World

7:00-8:30 Thursday evenings: October 19, October 26, November 2, November 9, November 16, [no meeting Thanksgiving week], November 30

There will be a sliding-scale fee of \$30, \$45, or \$60 (as able) to cover course costs; pre-registration required.

Sustainability

In this six-session course we will:

- Explore the many personal and global issues we face that a simple lifestyle can help to address.
- Determine which of your values leads you to an interest in simple living, and how simple living will help you live more in line with your values.
- Commit to action to create bigger impact in our world..

Each session is based on a set of readings from the NWEI course book, with rotating facilitation by course participants. This course is hosted by Michigan Friends Center and offered in partnership with Transition Town Chelsea. Registration required.

For further course information (including cost) contact Michigan Friends Center at manager@mfcenter.org, [734-475-1892](tel:734-475-1892).

Botany of FLCC with Amanda Klain

7:00-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 14

Donations welcome.

Spirituality – Wilderness Awareness

Join us for a slide presentation of pretty photos showcasing the diversity of plants found at Friends Lake Cooperative Community. Botanical survey results for the past year will also be shared. The focus will be on the native plant species' and not just the showy beloved trilliums and irises, but also the vastly overlooked and under-estimated beauties of the woodlands and wetlands. This presentation is a gift of voice to the plants as communities and essential contributors to the vital web of life that we are a part of.

Book Conversation: “Drawdown” edited by Paul Hawken

7:00-9:00 p.m. Thursday, December 7

Donations welcome.

Sustainability – Book Discussion Groups

What do we do about climate change besides worry or argue about it? Michigan Friends Center is sponsoring a discussion of a timely new book which describes dozens of proposed ways to reduce, halt, or reverse the effects of human activities that contribute to the warming of our planet. Each proposal is given a two- or three-page chapter of the book and rated according to its expected effectiveness. Join us, gain insights, and contribute your thoughts and opinions. A limited number of copies of "Drawdown" will be available through the Chelsea District Library in advance for participants. Co-sponsored with Transition Town Chelsea.

A Day of Solitude and Meditation Practice led by Carol Blotter

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Saturday, December 9

Suggested donation \$30 or as able. Pre-registration requested; contact Carol Blotter at 475-0942.

Spirituality – Meditation

Each retreat is an opportunity to enjoy the quiet of the country while practicing sitting and walking meditation. This day is appropriate for anyone interested in meditation: beginners will have break-out instruction; experienced meditators can be in silence all day; those in-between can practice and have their questions answered. These retreats are fundraisers for the benefit of Michigan Friends Center. Contact Carol at 734-475-0942 or cb.meditate@gmail.com to register.

2017 Winter Solstice Sing — a reflection of the season in sound & silence

7:00-9:00 p.m. Thursday, December 21

Donations welcome.

Community – Ceremonies, Celebrations & Festivals

We sit quietly in a circle and teach each other rounds, songs, and chants of the season as they occur to us. The woods around us, our sheltered circle focused on inner light, and our voices are the only elements of this simple celebration of the longest night.

Anyone who enjoys singing and sitting quietly is welcome. You don't need to be a singer--some just enjoy humming or listening. However most young children do not enjoy this event, since it does not involve any activity other than sitting and singing.